executing commands on the at least one microcontroller which manage and diagnose system functions.

Please add Claims 3-21 as follows:

3.   The method of Claim 1, wherein providing an information pathway further includes providing a request and response buffer storing messages between the network of microcontrollers and the specific memory addresses.

2 4.   The method of Claim 1, additionally comprising providing a client computer connected to the computer, wherein the execution of commands are initiated by the client computer.

3 5.   The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes altering the speed of a system fan.

4 6.   The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes reading the temperature of a sensor.

5 7.   The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes writing a message to a display.

6 8.   The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes checking the state of a microcontroller bus.

7 9.   The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes checking for the presence of a canister containing adapter slots.

8 10.   The method of Claim 1, wherein executing commands includes checking a system voltage.

9 11.   The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising increasing the speed of a fan in the computer when the temperature of the computer exceeds a threshold temperature.

10 12.   The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising checking for the presence of a power supply.

13 13.   The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising enabling the writing of flash memory with a new basic input/out system (BIOS) program.

14.   The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising sending a message to a system log.

15.   The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising sending notification of a system fault to the central processing unit.

16. The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising disabling power to a canister that is connected to the computer.

17. The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising enabling power to a canister that is connected to the computer.

18. The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising updating a watchdog timer that is maintained by the microcontroller network.

19. The method of Claim 2, additionally comprising interconnecting the microcontroller network with an I^2C bus.

20. A method of monitoring environmental conditions in a computerized environment, the method comprising:

creating a request message which identifies one or more environmental conditions of the computerized environment;

sending the request message from a requestor to a microcontroller network which manages the environmental conditions;

obtaining status of the conditions identified by the request message;

creating a response message which reports the status; and

sending the response message from the microcontroller network to the requestor.

21. The method of Claim 20, wherein the requestor is a central processing unit.

REMARKS

By this paper, Claim 1 has been amended and Claims 3-21 have been added. Favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited. Should there by any issues which can be resolved by